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16152 U.S. PTO  
021804

# Clayton, Howarth & Cannon



Attorneys At Law • A Professional Corporation

Intellectual Property Law  
Patents • Trademarks  
Copyrights • Licensing  
Litigation • Trade Secrets  
Computer Law • Biotechnology  
Unfair Competition • Enforcement

Attorney Docket No. T9790.CON.CIP  
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February 18, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) is a patent application entitled "Cervical Plate for Stabilizing the Human Spine," comprising:

A continuing application as indicated below:

Continuation of prior application no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \*\*\*[date]\*\*\*, which is hereby incorporated by reference in the enclosed application in its entirety.

This continuation constitutes the enclosed true and complete copy of said prior application, together with any instructions or amendments provided herein or herewith.

Divisional of prior application no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \*\*\*[date]\*\*\*, which is hereby incorporated by reference in the enclosed application in its entirety.

This divisional constitutes the enclosed true and complete copy of said prior application, together with any instructions or amendments provided herein or herewith.

Continuation-in-part of prior application no. 10/757,384, filed January 13, 2004, which is a continuation of application no. 10/198,525, filed July 16, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,679,883, which claimed the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/335,023, filed October 31, 2001, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entireties.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EV 302977110 US

Mailed: February 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and all enclosures indicated, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Karl R. Cannon  
Attorney Registration No. 36,468  
Attorney for Applicant

031356 U.S. PTO  
10/782740  
021804

A patent application claiming the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. \*\*/\*\*\*,\*\*\*, filed \*\*\*[date]\*\*\*, which is hereby incorporated by reference in the enclosed application in its entirety.

One hundred eight (108) pages of specification, claims and abstract.

Seven (7) sheets of  formal/ informal drawings.

Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition.  
 Newly Executed  
 Copy from prior application (when a continuation or divisional) (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d))  
 Associate or Substitute Power of Attorney

Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)

Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission  
 Computer Readable Copy  
 Paper Copy (identical to computer readable copy)  
 Statement verifying identity of above referenced copies

Also enclosed are:

An Assignment from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (including assignment cover sheet)

An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 accompanied by a Form PTO-1449.

A Preliminary Amendment, and the fee calculation set forth below is based upon the claims as constituted by said amendment.

A return receipt postcard under MPEP § 503, indicating specially itemized enclosures.

A Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b) to Establish Right of Assignee to Take Action.

A Certificate of Express Mailing certifying a filing date of February 18, 2004, by use of Express Mail Label No. EV 302977110 US.

- A Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status for \*\*\*[independent inventor, etc.]\*\*\*, under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9 and 1.27.
- A paper entitled "Establishment of Small Entity Status" under 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(a), along with a copy of the declaration claiming small entity status under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9 and 1.27 filed in the prior application.
- Certified copy of priority document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed).
- A Nonpublication Request Under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i). \*\*\*[Ask Atty]\*\*
- A copy of the extension of time simultaneously filed in the prior application.

Instructions and Averments:

- Incorporation by Reference (if a copy of the declaration from prior application is included). The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the declaration is supplied herewith as referenced above, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
- A Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status was filed in the prior application and such status is still proper and desired.
- Cancel in this application original claims \_\_\_\_\_ of the prior application before calculating the filing fee.
- Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2), please amend the specification as follows:  
\*\*\*[Attorney to fill in here if this is needed]\*\*\*

FEES

- No Fees are enclosed.
- Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.00 which represents the filing fee for this application.

Commissioner for Patents

February 18, 2004

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The fees have been calculated as set forth below.

PATENT APPLICATION FEE CALCULATION TABLE							
			SMALL ENTITY			LARGE ENTITY	
	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	Fee	OR	RATE	Fee
<b>BASIC FEE</b>				\$ 370	OR		\$ 740
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b>	- 20 =		X 9 =	\$	OR	X 18 =	\$
<b>IND. CLAIMS</b>	- 03 =		X 42 =	\$	OR	X 84 =	\$
<b>Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims</b>			+ 140 =	\$ -	OR	+ 280 =	\$
<b>ASSIGNMENT RECORDATION FEE ( )</b>			+ 40 =	\$ -	OR	+ 40 =	\$
			<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$	OR	<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication, if indicated by a marking below in the blank line corresponding to said fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0836.

- An original and one copy of this letter are enclosed.
- Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16.
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application, if indicated by a marking below in the blank line corresponding to said fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0836.

- Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.
- The issue fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b).
- Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for presentation of extra claims.

Commissioner for Patents  
February 18, 2004  
Page 5

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**CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

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X Please refer to the following attorney docket number in all future correspondence and telecommunications:

T9790.CON.CIP

Dated this 18 day of February, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Karl R. Cannon  
Attorney Registration No. 36,468  
Attorney for Applicant

Clayton, Howarth & Cannon, P.C.  
P.O. Box 1909  
Sandy, Utah 84091

KRC/kdl  
Enclosures